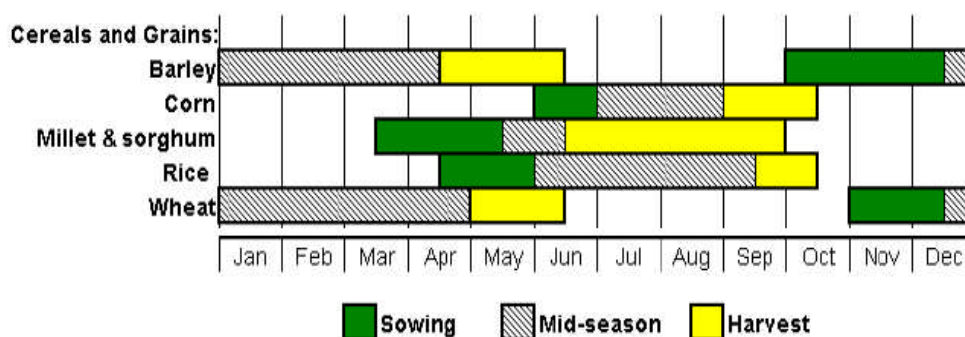




May Report – Week 2

1. Production for MY 2008/09 winter grains is forecasted to be lower than the previous year. The most significant decreases in winter grains production are expected in the northern rainfed governorates, with a heavy impact on historically major producing provinces such as Ninawa (Figure 1).
2. Cumulative precipitation during the winter grains season remained lower than previous years and significantly lower than normal. The lack of adequate moisture during the critical planting and establishment stages of the winter grains crop is the primary cause for lower production in the northern rainfed governorates (Figure 2).
3. A change analysis conducted on MODIS NDVI time series data showed significant decreases in crop abundance compared to the 9-Year average, with the northern governorates of Ninawa, Dahuk, and Arbil showing the most negative impact (Figure 3).
4. A change analysis conducted on AWiFS IRS P-6 NDVI between mid-March 2008 and early-May 2008 showed large areas of decreasing crop cover predominantly in the central and southern governorates; this most likely corresponds to winter grains harvesting which typically begins in mid-April and early-May (Figure 4).

Crop Calendar of Iraq



USDA Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division (PECAD)
Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
<http://fas.usda.gov/pecad/pecad.html>

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Table 1: MY 2008/09 Planted Wheat Area by governorate (Million Hectares)

Wheat Area Forecast: MY 2008/09 (Million Hectares)								Forecast	Change from 5-Year Average	
Region	Governorate	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	5-Year Average	Difference 5-Year Avg
North	Arbil	0.133	0.235	0.099	0.117	0.127	0.120	0.017	0.121	-85.6%
	Dahuk	0.122	0.129	0.098	0.102	0.091	0.100	0.026	0.095	-72.3%
	As Sulaymaniyah	0.163	0.109	0.070	0.153	0.120	0.120	0.070	0.115	-39.2%
	Ninawa	0.751	0.450	0.613	0.551	0.489	0.464	0.027	0.478	-94.3%
Central	At Ta'min	0.179	0.183	0.160	0.195	0.141	0.205	0.104	0.167	-37.9%
	Diyala	0.063	0.094	0.087	0.109	0.113	0.106	0.079	0.093	-15.0%
	Salah ad Din	0.110	0.125	0.107	0.110	0.108	0.107	0.094	0.109	-13.5%
	Baghdad	0.043	0.055	0.043	0.060	0.059	0.048	0.053	0.052	2.9%
	Babil	0.047	0.083	0.049	0.068	0.068	0.065	0.064	0.064	1.4%
	Wasit	0.165	0.159	0.148	0.166	0.157	0.164	0.148	0.158	-6.4%
	Al Qadisiyah	0.058	0.065	0.093	0.094	0.095	0.092	0.090	0.084	7.7%
	Karbala	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.007	0.004	0.002	0.004	0.005	-10.0%
	Al Anbar	0.036	0.033	0.043	0.035	0.056	0.057	0.044	0.043	1.1%
	An Najaf	0.046	0.045	0.046	0.048	0.045	0.050	0.043	0.046	-7.6%
	Al Muthanna	0.006	0.017	0.018	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	0.013	-3.4%
South	Dhi Qar	0.020	0.020	0.032	0.046	0.061	0.059	0.035	0.039	-11.2%
	Maysan	0.055	0.063	0.077	0.088	0.087	0.094	0.086	0.079	9.1%
	Al Basrah	0.013	0.016	0.016	0.014	0.017	0.017	0.016	0.016	4.6%
Total		2.02	1.89	1.81	1.97	1.85	1.88	1.01	1.78	-42.9%

Table 2: MY 2008/09 Planted Barley Area by governorate (Million Hectares)

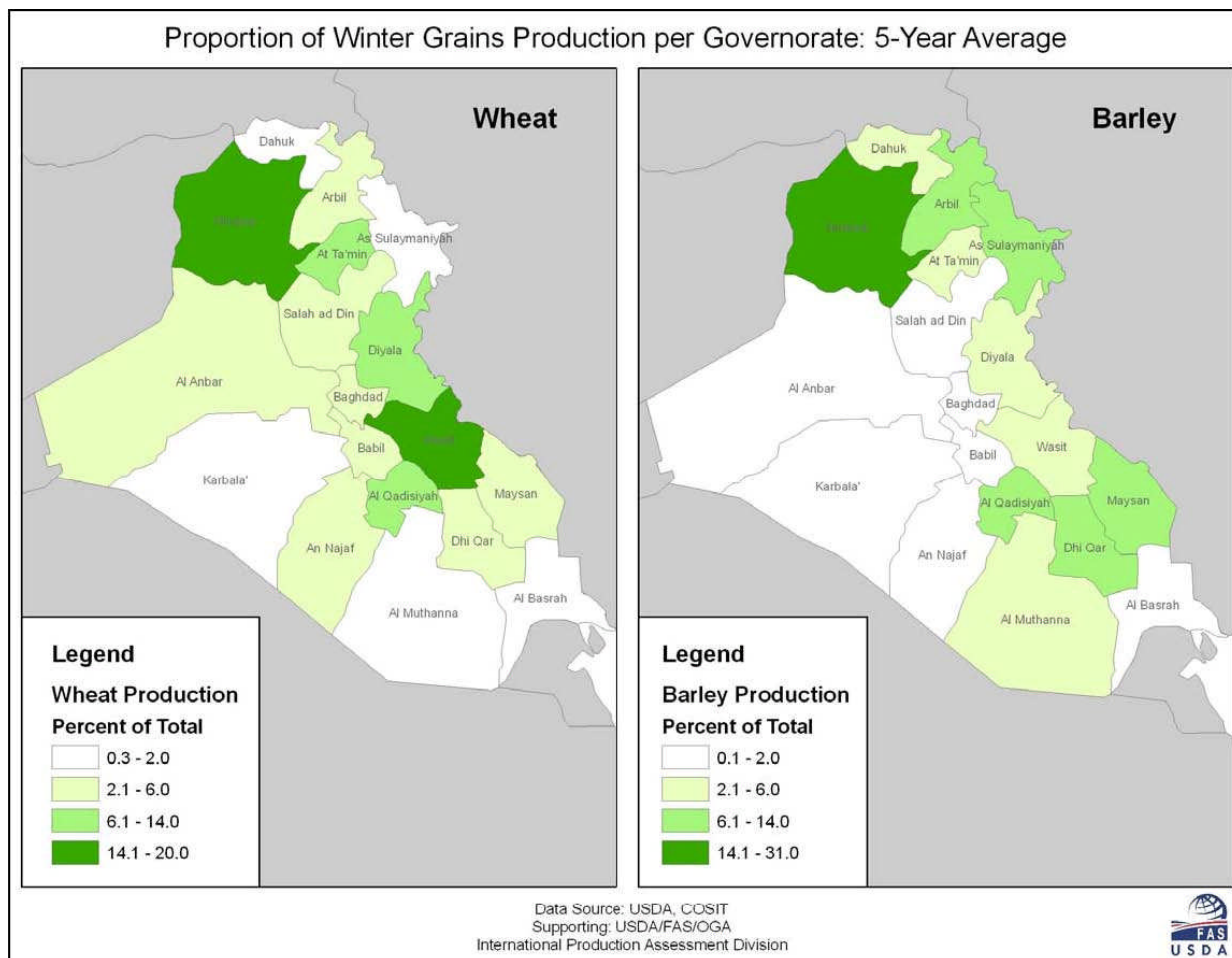
Barley Area Forecast: MY 2008/09 (Million Hectares)								Forecast	Change from 5-Year Average	
Region	Governorate	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	5-Year Average	Difference 5-Year Avg
North	Arbil	0.110	0.149	0.086	0.271	0.243	0.250	0.022	0.161	-86.5%
	Dahuk	0.032	0.039	0.027	0.037	0.041	0.050	0.009	0.034	-72.2%
	As Sulaymaniyah	0.122	0.043	0.052	0.125	0.108	0.110	0.051	0.087	-41.2%
	Ninawa	0.653	0.525	0.529	0.614	0.595	0.615	0.029	0.509	-94.2%
Central	At Ta'min	0.025	0.038	0.010	0.023	0.029	0.030	0.015	0.024	-38.4%
	Diyala	0.023	0.095	0.038	0.037	0.035	0.035	0.034	0.042	-19.5%
	Salah ad Din	0.016	0.030	0.039	0.028	0.015	0.015	0.020	0.023	-15.6%
	Baghdad	0.005	0.033	0.005	0.008	0.006	0.005	0.009	0.010	-9.1%
	Babil	0.012	0.017	0.021	0.020	0.024	0.025	0.020	0.020	2.1%
	Wasit	0.048	0.047	0.055	0.069	0.063	0.060	0.053	0.056	-6.8%
	Al Qadisiyah	0.043	0.085	0.078	0.077	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.075	7.3%
	Karbala	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002	-6.1%
	Al Anbar	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	2.4%
	An Najaf	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.002	-8.3%
	Al Muthanna	0.023	0.033	0.038	0.023	0.027	0.025	0.028	0.028	-0.9%
South	Dhi Qar	0.043	0.043	0.064	0.082	0.075	0.075	0.059	0.063	-6.4%
	Maysan	0.030	0.038	0.066	0.071	0.065	0.065	0.060	0.056	6.6%
	Al Basrah	0.009	0.007	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.005	0.007	0.006	4.1%
Total		1.20	1.23	1.12	1.50	1.42	1.45	0.50	1.20	-58.2%

Data Sources: AWiFS IRS-P6, Quickbird, MODIS imagery. COSIT time series crop statistics. *Not Official USDA*

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Figure 1: Historical proportions of winter grains production per province.

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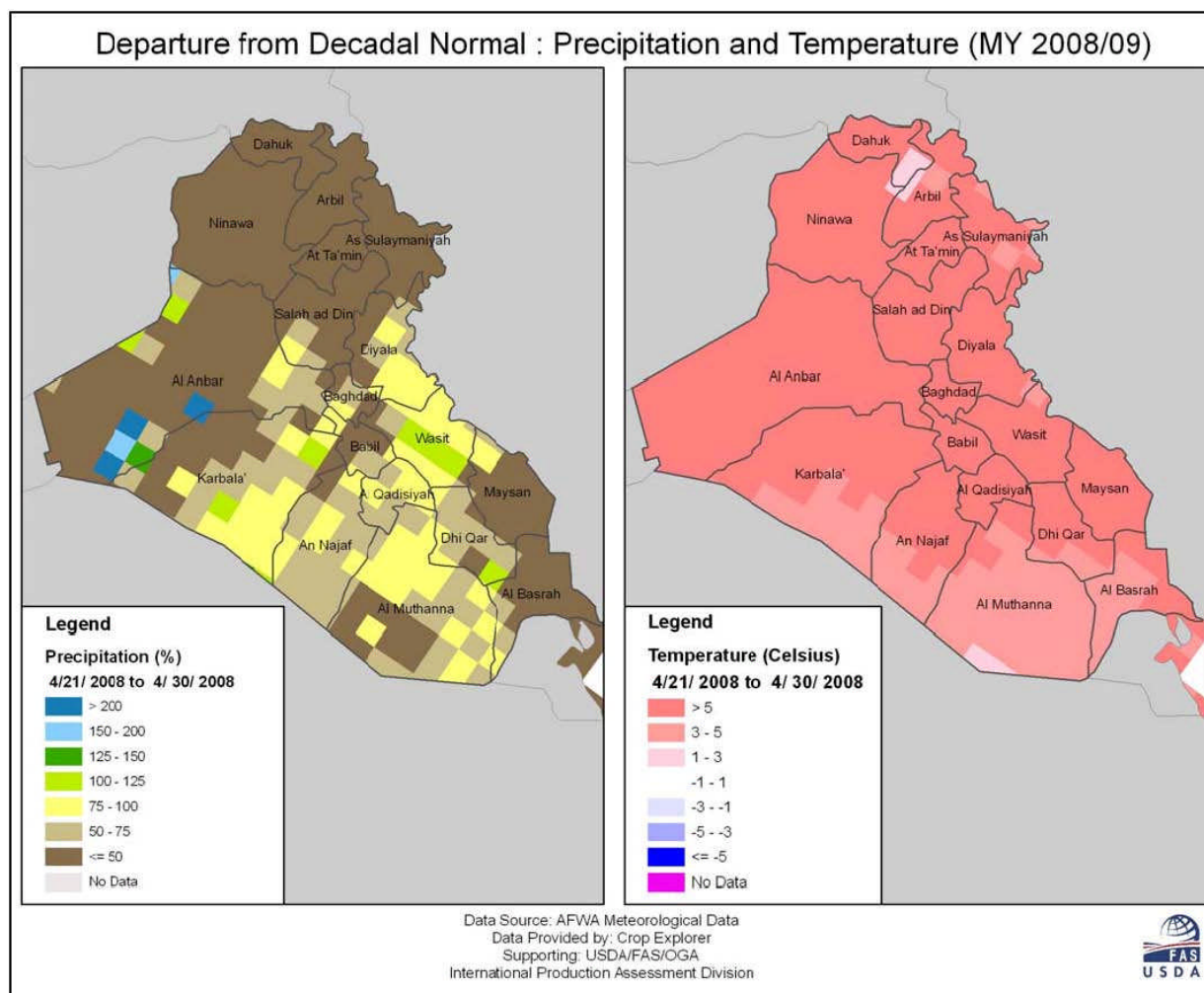


Figure 2: Departure from normal AFWA precipitation and temperature data: MY 2008/09 (April 21st to April 30th).

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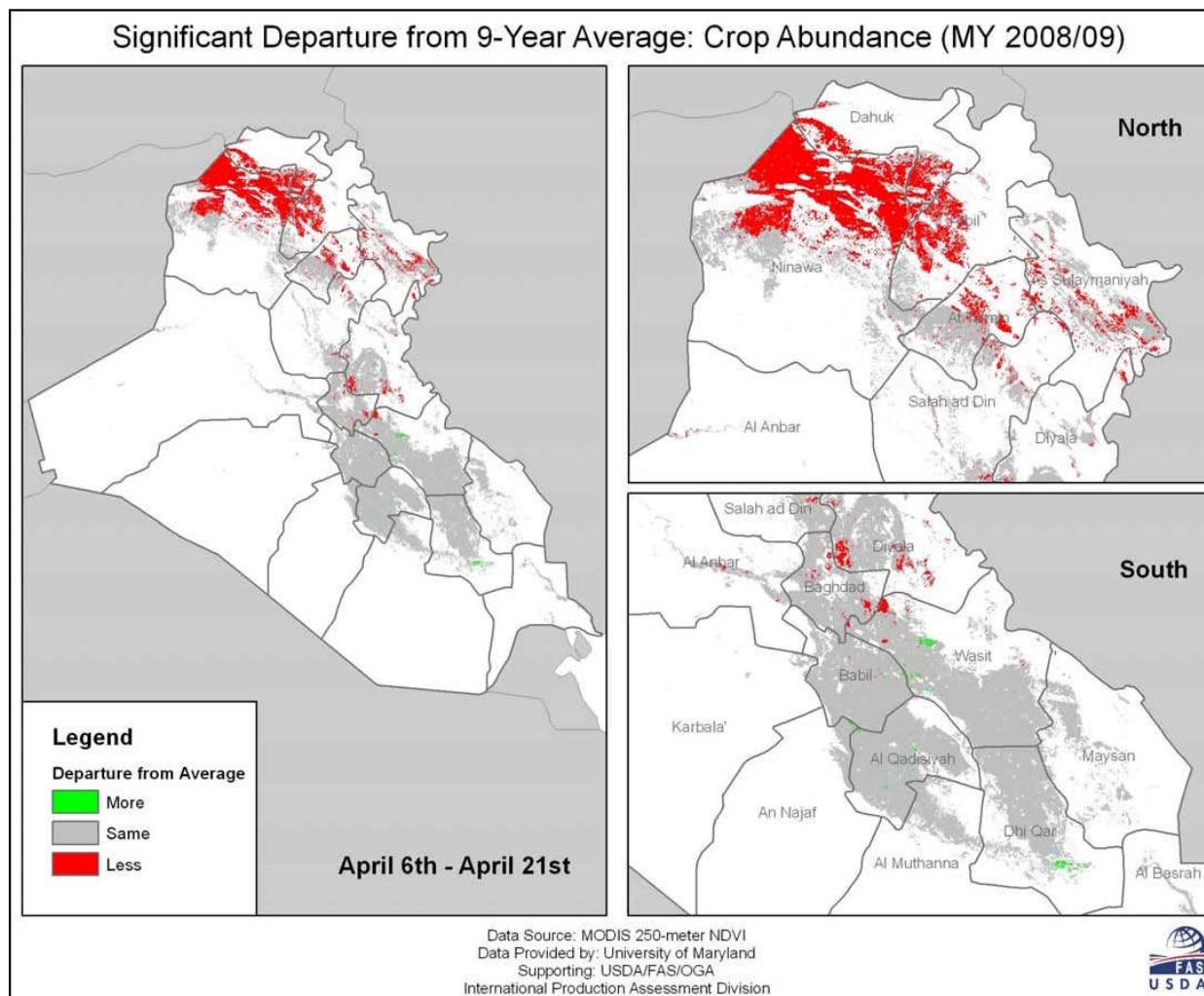


Figure 3: MODIS NDVI departure from the 9-Year Average: MY 2008/09.

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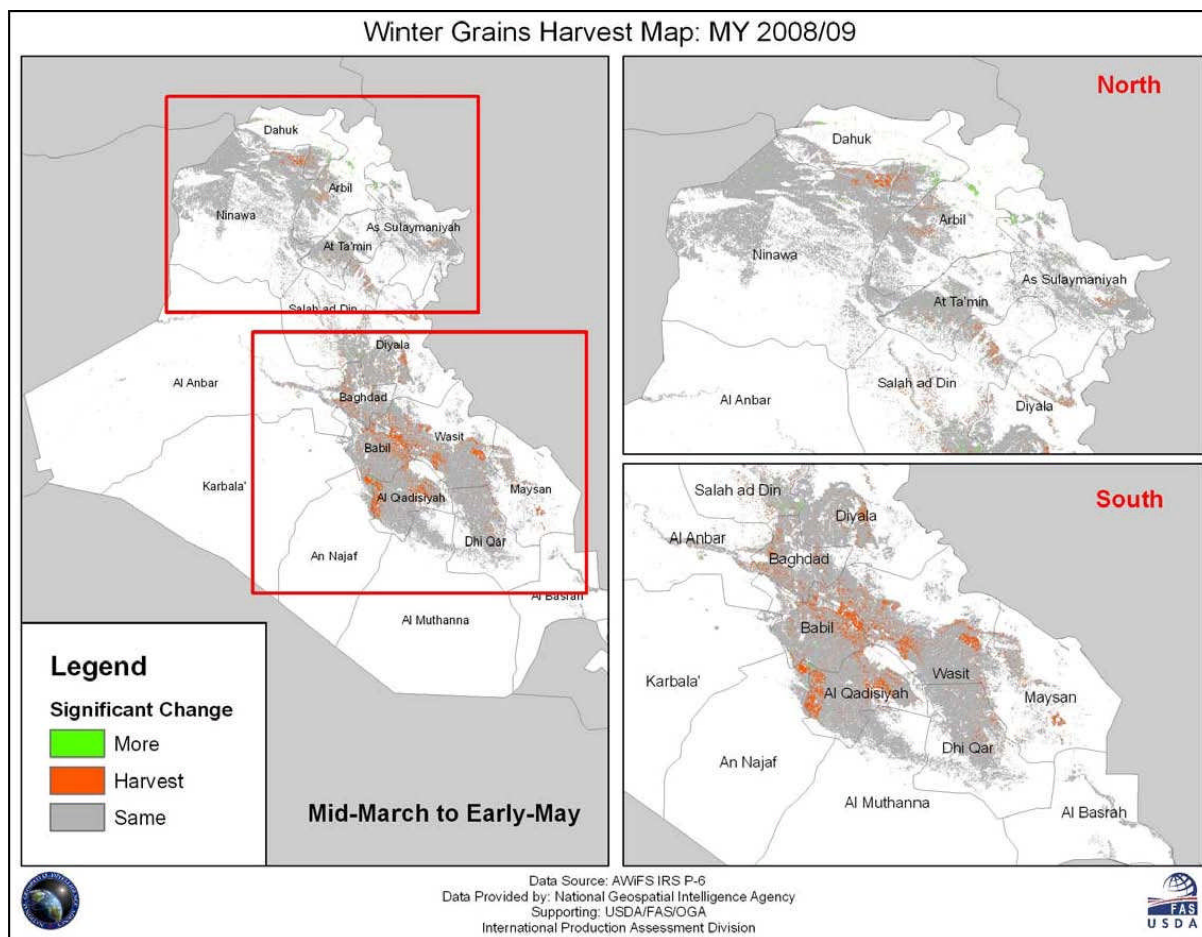


Figure 4: Map depicting significant change in crop cover between mid-March and early-May (i.e. winter grains harvesting)